

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 06667 031337Z

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5818

S E C R E T AMMAN 6667

NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, JO,US

SUBJ: HAWKS FOR JORDAN - NEXT STEPS

REF: (A) STATE 233051, (B) 234639, (C) AMMAN 6665,(D) AMMAN 6666

1. SEPTTEL FORWARDS TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM KING ON HAWKS AND MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENTS. THIS CABLE REPORTS ON HAWKS. KING AGREES TO SIGN LETTER OF OFFER AND PROCEED AS PROPOSED IMMEDIATELY ON TRAINING PROGRAMS. IF TRAINING PROGRAM STUDY LATER SHOWS GAP IN SYNCHRONIZATION WITH DELIVERY

SCHEDULE,

KING SAYS HE UNDERSTANDS THERE IS US COMMITMENT TO SPEED UP DELIVERY SCHEDULE AND ASKS FOR CONFIRMATION OF THIS. RIFAI IN HANDING ME LETTER

SAID THAT REASON DECISION IS BEING MADE TO SIGN IS THAT KING'S CHIEF OF STAFF HAS CONVINCED KING AND RIFAI THAT DELIVERY SCHEDULE IS RIGHT IN TERMS OF HIS ABILITY TO TRAIN HIS TROOPS FOR HAWK, BUT THAT KING WANTS TO BE ON RECORD WITH HIS FORMER POSITION. HE ASSURES ME NOTHING MORE IS INTENDED.

2. I TOLD RIFAI ONLY THAT I WOULD REPORT MESSAGE.

3. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT JORDANIANS REALLY EXPECT A "COMMITMENT" FROM

US ON THIS POINT, AND OUR RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE THAT WHEN WE HAVE

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READY ROUGH ORDER OF MAGNITUDE FIGURES BEING PREPARED BY DOD FOR

TOTAL SYSTEMS COST, WE SEND SEPARATE MESSAGE FOR KING FROM SECRETARY WHICH WOULD REPEAT ESSENTIALLY POSITION WHICH WE HAVE TAKEN ALL ALONG IN MOST FORTHCOMING TERMS WE CAN CONCEIVE OF CONSISTENT WITH OUR COMMITMENT TO CONGRESS. ONLY THOUGHT WE HAVE TO CONTRIBUTE AT THIS POINT, AND IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED BEFORE, IS TO BUILD ON THE KEY SENTENCE IN SEPTEMBER 18 MESSAGE AND THE MESSAGE PROPOSED IN STATE 231083. THE KEY SENTENCES MIGHT READ ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: " I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR MAJESTY'S LETTER OF OCTOBER 3 AND UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE THE CONTENTS. IN THIS CONNECTION, YOU HAVE MY COMMITMENT THAT AS THE PRESIDENT AND I HAVE MADE CLEAR, IN MY LETTER OF SEPTEMBER 18 AND SUBSEQUENTLY, SHOULD THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH YOU FORESEE AS A POSSIBILITY EVENTUAL, AND IN THE LIGHT OF THE SITUATION AT THAT TIME, WE WILL BE PREPARED TO RAISE THE MATTER AGAIN AND DO WHATEVER WE CAN IN THIS REGARD." THIS IS OF COURSE NOT EXACTLY WHAT THE KING WANTS, BUT NEITHER DO WE BELIEVE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR HIM TO EXPLOIT IT IN ANY WAY DAMAGING TO US. HE MAY WISH TO SHOW IT TO HIS ARAB FRIENDS IF HE IS LATER CRITICIZED BY THEM FOR THE DEAL AND IT MAY BE IMPORTANT TO HIM WITH THE SAUDIS. WE CAN SEE NO CONCEIVABLE INTEREST OF HIS WHICH WOULD BE SERVED BY SHOWING IT TO THE CONGRESS, SINCE HIS OBJECTIVE IS TO OBTAIN THE HAWKS ON THE BEST POSSIBLE SCHEDULE. NEITHER DO WE SEE ANY REAL ADVANTAGE TO HIM NOW OR IN THE FUTURE OF GOING PUBLIC ON THIS ISSUE. FINALLY, IT WOULD IN OUR JUDGEMENT NEVERTHELESS BE A MISTAKE TO ALLOW KING'S LETTER TO REMAIN WITHOUT AN ANSWER FROM THE SECRETARY, SINCE WITHOUT AN ANSWER THE JORDANIANS CAN IMPUTE A COMMITMENT MUCH FULLER THAN WE UNDERSTAND CAN BE MADE IN LIGHT OF OUR DEALINGS WITH THE CONGRESS.

4. WE BELIEVE THAT FOR THE NEXT PERIOD, OUR FULL EFFORT SHOULD BE TO PUT THE HAWK CASE FIRMLY BACK INTO THE MILITARY TO MILITARY CHANNEL AS SOON AS WE CAN. IN THIS EFFORT, A SHORT TIME LAPSE IN OUR REPLY AS SUGGESTED ABOVE WILL SERVE TO LET MATTER MATURE IN KING'S AND RIFAI'S MINDS. SINCE THEY ARE ALL GOING ON A WEEK ID HOLIDAY ANYWAY, THAT TOO WILL HELP. PICKERING

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONNEL TRAINING, CAT-C, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, MILITARY SALES, MISSILES  
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**Draft Date:** 03 OCT 1975  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, MASS, US, JO, JO, US, (HUSSEIN I)  
**To:** STATE STAT  
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